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The evening Mother died she and Daddy had just returned to California from a popular "fat farm" in Tecate, Mexico where Mother had posed for the camera in their private swimming pool, wearing only a sunny smile and an orchid tucked playfully in her gray pixie cut. Now dressing for dinner in the Del Coronado Hotel, Mother said, "Ready, dear," and giggled.

Daddy turned to see his 64 year old bride dressed except that she was wearing nothing under her transparent blouse. They both burst into laughter.

Mother's off-the-wall sense of humor was her trademark all her life, as was her love for travel and adventure. The latter appetite was fed by her career as a secretary in the Foreign Service. This career provided her experiences of riding a camel, survival of a shipwreck, earthquakes and typhoons; history in the making (including Coolidge, Roosevelt, Einstein, Heifetz and Mother standing next to Charles Lindberg); cultural impressions of Havana, Buenos Aires, Valparaiso, Santiago and Tokyo as a young girl; many suitors; her impressions of religion, politics, hats, the piano; her study of Spanish and Japanese; and her avid sports activities including walking near Mount Fuji and tapdancing at the Y). But her more traditional attributes of hard work and homemaking are what I remember most. For example. .